INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT) AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPARTMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRY) (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Reserve Bank of India accords automatic approval for raising foreign equity upto 51% in existing companies engaged in or proposing to undertake expansion in the high priority industries listed in Annex III of the Statement on Industrial Policy of July, 1991. Other proposals for raising foreign enquity are considered by the Government on merit. The approvals for increase in foreign equity holdings have been allowed in a large number of sectors such as Metallurgical industries, Industrial machinery & equipments, Electrical & Electronics, Chemicals, Drugs & Pharmaceuticals, Engineering, industries, Food Processing Industries etc.

(c) to (f) After the Capital Issues (Control) Act, 1947 was repealed and following the issue of guidelines by the Securities and Exchange Board of India, existing companies wishing to raise foreign equity holdings can do so at the price determined by the share holders of the respective companies in a special resolution under Section 81 (1) (A) of the Companies Act. In view of this, the question of issue of any approval by the Secretariat for Industrial Approvals in regard to pricing of shares does not arise.

Rubber units set up in Punjab

*15. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of small and medium rubber units set up in Punjab during the period from 1990 to 1993; and

(b) the steps taken to set up new rubber units in the State for promoting rubber industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DEPTT. OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES) (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) The number of small, medium and large rubber units functioning in the State of Punjab and which were licensee of the Rubber Board, i.e. such units which were taking natural rubber from Rubber Board, during the period from 1990 to 1993 were:

Year	No. of units
1990-91	538
1991-92	543
1992-93	561.

(b) Promotion anl development of small scale industries is basically a function of State Governments. However, Government of India supplement their efforts. In order to promote rubber goods industry in the State, the State Government proposes to set up a rubber goods complex at Jalandhar. An Industrial Development Centre for Rubber Goods has already been set up at Jalandhar for providing common facility services to small scale rubber goods manufacturing units like machining, mould making and processing. This Centre is also providing the facility of testing of rubber goods to such units. Apart from this, it is proposed to set up a Research and Development Centre for Rubber Goods at Jalandhar under United Nations Development Programme. The proposal has since been approved by Government of India and has been submitted to the U.N.D.P. for sanction. It is expected that the setting up rubber goods complex and NRDC Centre for Rubber Goods at Jalandhar will go in a long way in promoting rubber goods industry in the State.

Recovery of Amounts due in DPEA

*16. PROF. I. G. SANADI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that instead of recovering the amounts due into Drug